

Advent Quiet Day, 2021

# Session 1: First Incarnation – God revealed in and through Creation

Genesis 1:31 - God saw all that God had made - and it was very good

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John Duns Scotus writes,

“Each and everything in creation has value in its own right and can only be known by direct acquaintance.”

*Seeing Differently: Franciscans and Creation P85*

Bonaventure views the natural world sacramentally, calling it a book and a mirror because it points beyond itself to the Triune God upon whom it depends as efficient, exemplary and final cause. He recounts how God created the visible world “as a means of self-revelation so that, like a mirror of God or a divine footprint, it might lead man to love and praise his Creator.” Creation is the ‘outer book’ that expresses an “inner book”: the Word (God’s Wisdom or Art) by whom God creates. Human beings are unique in creation by virtue of their ability to read *both* books.

[www.lrcatholic.org/pdf/bonaventure/BonaventureonCreation-Ressourcement.pdf](http://www.lrcatholic.org/pdf/bonaventure/BonaventureonCreation-Ressourcement.pdf)



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## John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

## Colossians 1:15-18

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.



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## Terra Divina

Go for a walk or look out of a window; let your attention be caught. This may be a gift (Lectio)

Ask yourself: what has caught my attention – and why might this be a gift? (Meditatio)

Allow whatever has caught your attention to carry your prayers or yearnings. (Oratio)

Finally, let go of whatever has caught your attention, and enjoy the possibility of sacred presence. (Contemplatio).

*Running Over Rocks, Ian Adams*



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He wraps Himself in light  
As with a garment,  
He spreads out the heavens  
And walks on the wings of the wind.

He sends forth the springs  
from the valleys  
The flow between mountains.  
The birds of the air dwell  
by the waters,  
Lifting their voices in song-

Singing glory, glory!  
Glory to the Lamb!  
All praises and honour forever

He made the moon for its season,  
The sun knows it setting.  
He looks at the Earth and it trembles,

He touches the mountains  
and they smoke,

I will sing to the Lord all my life,  
I will sing praises to my God -  
As long as I live,  
Praises to the Lord, oh my soul.

Praises to the Lord, oh my soul.  
Singing glory, glory!  
Glory to the Lamb!

All praises and honour forever  
Singing glory, hallelujah!  
Glory to our God!  
All praises and honour forever.



*Fernando Ortega*